

Draft Long Term Vision

In developing the elements a long term vision for the RLTS we have taken account of the sustainable communities, urban form, economic prosperity envisaged in the Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS). The WRS sees:

- A feeling of free movement in the region
- Safe and clean communities
- Access to varied social, economic, educational, cultural and recreational opportunities
- Efficient, quick and easy transport connections within and outside the region
- A transport system which provides greater choice, integration and flexibility
- World class communications and transport networks
- Efficient freight movement
- High quality and secure infrastructure to support sustainable growth
- The importance of north-south and west-east links with improved access to the port and airport
- Well configured and compact communities
- Thriving Wellington CBD and sub-regional centres
- Higher density housing close to the Wellington CBD, sub-regional centres and transport links.

Translating these aspirations into a form that will usefully guide the RLTS means they need to be aligned to the strategy's outcomes. We envisage the following:

For travel demand

- People need to travel less because they live closer to their main destinations
- Excellent telecommunications reduce the need to travel
- Travellers pay the full cost of their journeys

For roads

- Less people use private cars to get around where there are viable alternatives
- The roading network is maintained and enhanced to provide a high level of access throughout the region, especially between key origins and destinations
- Road congestion is managed at levels that balances the need for access against the ability to fully provide for peak demands due to community impacts and cost constraints
- Key bottlenecks are unblocked to allow maximum use of the existing network

- Vehicles run on renewable fuels that are non polluting
- No one is killed or injured by or when using the system

For passenger transport

- More people use PT to get around
- Trip times and comfort competes with private cars for a majority of commuter trips
- The rail system better connects people with key destinations
- All PT services are fully accessible, including physical access, access to information and simple streamlined ticketing

For pedestrians

- More people walk especially for short trips
- Pedestrian networks are convenient, safe and pleasant to use

For cyclists

- More people cycle
- Cycling networks are convenient, safe and pleasant to use

For freight

- Freight traffic moves efficiently through and within the transport network, particularly to key destinations like the Wellington port and airport
- More bulk freight is moved by rail